(TWICE AMENDED) An apparatus for presenting, and monitoring telecommunication transaction records for a plurality of differing communication devices via a thin web client interface, the apparatus comprising:

a billing server, configured to receive telecommunication transaction information associated with the plurality of differing communication devices, and configured to translate said telecommunication transaction information into one of a plurality of telecommunication transaction records, said plurality of telecommunication transaction records being elements of a user account bill, said billing server also configured to query said plurality of telecommunication transaction records in response to a request for prescribed data; and

a web server, coupled to said billing server, configured to provide said telecommunication transaction information to said billing server, to request said prescribed data in response to a user command via the thin web client interface, and to provide said prescribed data to the user;

wherein said prescribed data distinguishes between [a first telecommunication transaction record and a second telecommunication transaction record] telecommunication transaction information associated with a first one of the plurality of differing communication devices, and a second one of the plurality of differing communication devices.

2. (ONCE AMENDED) The apparatus as recited in claim 1, wherein [each of the telecommunication transaction records documents a specific telecommunication event] the plurality of differing communication devices comprise:

a telephone;

a fax; and

a .pager.

Sub C1

3. (TWICE AMENDED) The apparatus as recited in claim 2, wherein each of said plurality of differing communication devices are provided to the user by different telecommunication companies.[, upon execution of said specific telecommunication event, said web server sends said telecommunication transaction information to said billing server and said billing server generates a specific telecommunication transaction record by including additional information to include a specific place called, a specific account number, and a specific transaction cost.]

B1

4. (ONCE AMENDED) The apparatus as recited in claim 1 wherein the plurality of differing communication devices comprises:

a first communication device for communicating over a telephone network; and

a second communication device for communicating over a data network.[3, wherein said specific telecommunication event comprises a local toll call, a long distance call, or a calling card call.]

5. (TWICE AMENDED) The apparatus as recited in claim 1 [4], wherein [each of ]said plurality of telecommunication transaction records comprises an account number, a calling number, a transaction date, a transaction time, a called number, a called place, a transaction duration, and a transaction cost.

B2

14. (TWICE AMENDED) An interactive telecommunications billing mechanism, comprising:

a billing server, for maintaining a transaction data base, and for querying said transaction data base to retrieve selected transaction records that match parameters of a query, wherein said selected transaction records correspond to billing entries for differing telecommunication devices provided to a user by different telecommunication entities; [each of said selected transaction records comprises:

a line field, documenting a first telephone number from which a call originates;

a number field, documenting a second telephone number to which said call is placed;

a place field, documenting a location corresponding to said number field; and

a cost field, documenting a cost of a corresponding call event;

wherein a user account bill is made up of transaction records corresponding to a particular account number]; and

B2 could be general.

a web server, coupled to said billing server, for providing said query in response to a user command received from a data network, and for transmitting said selected transaction records to [a] the user over said data network for viewing via a web browser.

15. (ONCE AMENDED) The interactive telecommunications billing mechanism as recited in claim 14, wherein said differing telecommunication devices from said different telecommunication entities comprise:

a telephone provided by a telephone company; and

a data network connection provided by a data network service provider. [each of said selected transaction records documents a specific call event.]

B3

18. (ONCE AMENDED) The interactive telecommunications billing mechanism as recited in claim 14 [16], wherein said web server is a computer that transmits and receives data packets over said data network to provide call events for said user.

Sub B4 cancelled

23. (TWICE AMENDED) An apparatus for accessing selected telecommunications records associated with a plurality of different telecommunication devices, over

the internet from a user computer that is executing a web browser application, said apparatus comprising:

a billing server, for maintaining telecommunications records, and for providing the selected telecommunications records in response to a user request, said billing server comprising:

data base logic, for storing said telecommunications records, wherein a first of the selected telecommunications records corresponds to a first of the plurality of different telecommunication devices, and a second of the selected telecommunications records corresponds to a second of the plurality of telecommunications devices [each of said telecommunications records documents a specific telecommunications event, and wherein particular ones of said telecommunications records corresponding to a particular user account number are periodically processed to generate an account bill]; and

[maintenance logic, for providing said data base logic with a new telecommunications record corresponding to a new telecommunications event; and]

query logic, for searching said telecommunications records in accordance with parameters prescribed by said user request, and for retrieving the selected telecommunications records; and

a web server, coupled to said billing server, for receiving said user request over the internet, and for providing the selected telecommunications records for the plurality of different telecommunication devices to the user computer over the internet.

B4

27. (TWICE AMENDED) A method for providing access to telecommunications billing records in a billing computer over the internet, the telecommunications billing records associated with charges from a plurality of telecommunication

entities for a plurality of different telecommunication devices, the access being obtained via a remote computer that is executing a thin web client application, the method comprising:

a) maintaining the telecommunications billing records in a data base, the telecommunications billing records documenting individual telecommunication charges for each of the plurality of telecommunication entities for each of the plurality of different telecommunication devices [events, each of the telecommunications billing records being an item of a periodic telephone bill];

b) querying the data base in accordance with parameters provided by a completed search parameter entry web page; and

c) transmitting a search results web page to display the telecommunications billing records on the remote computer for each of the plurality of telecommunication entities.

30. (TWICE AMENDED) The method as recited in claim 27 said step a) further comprises: [A method for providing a user with detailed long distance telephonic transaction billing information via a thin web client, the method] comprising:

a1) providing a data server, coupled to local telephone switches, for tracking [long distance telephone] transactions and associated costs for a plurality of [telephone numbers] analog telephone accounts;

a2) providing a data server, coupled to data switches, for tracking costs for a plurality of data accounts

a3[b]) providing a web server, coupled to the data servers, for presenting to the user [the detailed long distance telephonic] transaction information; and

a4[c]) providing the user with a customizable event monitor, coupled to the web server and to the data servers, the event monitor for alerting the user when [telephone] transactions meet a specified criteria.